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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) An integrated input/output controller integrated into a single integrated circuit device, comprising:

a host interface subsystem coupled to a host to receive host commands and to transceive data blocks with the host in response to the host commands; and

a mapping controller coupled to the host interface subsystem for mapping logical block addresses of the host commands into block addresses of one or more peripherals to transceive the data blocks with the one or more peripherals.

2. (Original) The integrated input/output controller of claim 1, further comprising:

a peripheral interface subsystem to couple to the one or more peripherals to issue peripheral commands and to transceive data blocks with the one or more peripherals in response to the one or more peripheral commands.

3. (Previously presented) The integrated input/output (I/O) controller of claim 1, including circuits to perform:

receiving a high level I/O command from a host;

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parsing the high level I/O command to determine whether to read or write data;

mapping the high level I/O request into one or more peripheral I/O commands, the one or more peripheral I/O commands indicating which of the one or more peripherals and which respective data locations are to be accessed; and

servicing the high level I/O request by reading or writing data between the host and the one or more peripherals using the respective data locations.

4. (Original) The integrated I/O controller of claim 3, further including circuits to perform:

prior to servicing the high level I/O request, storing data temporarily into an external cache buffer from the data flow between the host and the one or more peripherals.

5. (Original) The integrated I/O controller of claim 3, wherein,

each of the one or more peripheral I/O commands further indicates the number of blocks of data to be serviced.

6. (Original) The integrated I/O controller of claim 3, wherein,

mapping the high level I/O request into one or more peripheral I/O commands includes circuits to perform

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parsing a high level command from an I/O request packet,

decoding the high level command and generating a range operation request in response thereto, and

generating the one or more peripheral I/O commands in response to the range operation request.

7. (Original) The integrated I/O controller of claim 3, wherein,

each of the one or more peripherals are storage disks and each of the one or more peripheral I/O commands are Small Computer System Interface (SCSI) disk I/O commands.

8. (Original) The integrated I/O controller of claim 3, wherein,

the high level I/O command is a command of a Small Computer System Interface (SCSI) Command Descriptor Block (CDB) standard.

9. (Original) The integrated I/O controller of claim 3, wherein,

the circuits of the integrated I/O controller are hard wired circuits.

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10. (Original) The integrated I/O controller of claim 3, wherein,

the circuits of the integrated I/O controller are microcoded circuits and state machines operating concurrently.

11. (Original) The integrated I/O controller of claim 3, wherein,

the circuits of the integrated I/O controller are hard wired circuits, microcoded circuits and state machines operating concurrently.

12. (Original) The integrated I/O controller of claim 3, wherein,

the circuits of the integrated I/O controller are programmable micro-controllers operating concurrently.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously presented) The integrated input/output controller of claim 1, further comprising:

a micro-controller subsystem coupled to the host interface subsystem and the peripheral interface subsystem, the micro-controller subsystem to perform initialization and to process errors and exception events.

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15. (Currently amended) The integrated input/output controller of claim 13 further comprising:

a cache manager coupled to the host interface subsystem and the peripheral interface subsystem, the cache manager to manage entries in a cache buffer to temporarily store data of the data flow between the peripheral and the host.

16. (Original) The integrated input/output controller of claim 15 further comprising:

a buffer manager coupled to the host interface subsystem, the peripheral interface subsystem, and the cache manager, the buffer manager to manage data storage in the cache buffer.

17. (Previously presented) The integrated input/output controller of claim 1 wherein,

the host interface subsystem includes a fibre channel host port to transceive data with the host using a fibre channel protocol.

18. (Previously presented) The integrated input/output controller of claim 1 wherein,

the host interface subsystem includes

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a host exchange controller to control the physical connection and protocol of the host.

19. (Previously presented) The integrated input/output controller of claim 1 wherein,

the host interface subsystem includes

a command decode controller to decode host commands.

20. (Previously presented) The integrated input/output controller of claim 1 wherein,

the peripheral interface subsystem includes

a peripheral exchange controller to control the physical connection and protocol of the peripheral.

21. (Previously presented) The integrated input/output controller of claim 1 wherein,

the peripheral interface subsystem includes a Fibrechannel disk port to transceive data with the peripheral using a Fibrechannel protocol.

22. (Canceled)

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23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously presented) The integrated input/output controller of claim 1, further comprising:

a micro-controller coupled to the host interface subsystem, the micro-controller to perform initialization and handle error and exception handling events.

29. (Original) The integrated input/output controller of claim 28 wherein,

the host interface subsystem includes a fibre channel host port to transceive data with the one or more servers using a fibre channel protocol.

30. (Original) The integrated input/output controller of claim 28 wherein,

the host interface subsystem includes a command decode controller to receive and decode host command packets.

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31. (Original) The integrated input/output controller of claim 30 wherein,

the command decode controller to further validate a host command and to initiate execution of the host command by the integrated input/output controller.

32. (Original) The integrated input/output controller of claim 30 wherein,

the command decode controller to further validate a host command and to queue the host command in a queue to be executed in an order, the command queue associated with a volume accessible by one of the one or more servers.

33. (Original) The integrated input/output controller of claim 30 wherein,

the command decode controller to further validate a host command and to determine that the host command is invalid, the host command is passed to the micro-controller subsystem to process the invalidity.

34. (Original) The integrated input/output controller of claim 30 wherein,

the host command packets are high level input/output requests.

35. (Original) The integrated input/output controller of claim 28 further comprising:



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a peripheral interface to couple to one or more peripheral devices and transceive data between the one or more peripheral devices and the one or more servers coupled to the host port.

36. (Original) The integrated input/output controller of claim 28 wherein,

the integrated input/output controller is an integrated RAID controller to transceive data between one or more disks of at least one disk array and the integrated input/output controller further comprises:

a disk interface to couple to the one or more disks of the at least one disk array to transceive the data to or from the one or more servers; and

the mapping controller is a RAID mapping controller to flexibly control the mapping of blocks of data storage on the one or more disks of the at least one disk array.

37. (Original) The integrated input/output controller of claim 36 wherein,

the one or more disks of the at least one array of disks are magnetic storage media, optical storage media or semiconductor storage media.

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38. (Original) The integrated input/output controller of claim 36 wherein,

the disk interface subsystem includes one or more fibre channel disk ports to transceive data with the one or more disks of the at least one disk array using a fibre channel protocol.

39. (Original) The integrated input/output controller of claim 28 wherein,

the mapping controller provides RAID mapping automation.

40. (Original) The integrated input/output controller of claim 28 wherein,

the mapping controller is programmable hardware to flexibly control the mapping of blocks of data storage on the one or more disks of the at least one disk array.

41. (Currently amended) The integrated input/output controller of claim 28 wherein,

the mapping controller to receive a requested command input packet to generate expanded command output packets in response thereto, the requested command input packet functions as a logical address and the expanded command output packets function as block ~~physical~~ addresses.

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42. (Original) The integrated input/output controller of claim 28 further comprising:

a buffer manager and a cache manager, the buffer manager and the cache manager to couple to a cache buffer and a cache table buffer respectively to flexibly control the reading and writing of data to and from the mapped data storage on the one or more disks of the at least one disk array.

43. (Previously presented) The integrated input/output controller of claim 2, comprising part of a storage area network, the storage area network comprising:

at least one server to couple to a network;

at least one disk array having a plurality of disks; and

at least one fibre channel controller to couple to at least one server and at least one disk array, the at least one fibre channel controller to read and write data between the at least one server and the at least one disk array, the at least one fiber channel controller having

a cache memory,

a microprocessor to initialize the fiber channel controller upon power up and reset, and

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a programmable random access memory (PRAM) to store initialization instructions in firmware,

wherein the integrated input/output controller is connected to the storage area network and comprises a hardware redundant array of independent disks (RAID) controller to control the reading and writing of data between the at least one server and the at least one disk array.

44. (Previously presented) The integrated input/output controller of claim 43, wherein

the host interface subsystem receives data from the at least one server for storage into the one or more disks of the at least one disk array and to transmits data to the at least one server for data accessed from the one or more disks of the at least one disk array;

the peripheral interface subsystem comprises a disk interface subsystem to couple to the one or more disks of the at least one disk array to transmit data to the one or more disks of the at least one disk array for storage and to receive data from the one or more disks of the at least one disk array when accessed, and

the mapping controller comprises a RAID mapping subsystem to flexibly control the mapping of blocks of storage on the one or more disks of the at least one disk array, and

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further comprising a micro-controller coupled to the host interface subsystem, the disk interface subsystem, and the RAID mapping subsystem for handling non-data flow commands, error and exception handling events as well as system initialization.

45 [[44]]. (Currently amended) The storage area network of claim 43 for central data storage and management, wherein,

the cache memory provides a cache data buffer and a cache table buffer for the integrated RAID controller integrated circuit.

46. (Original) The storage area network of claim 43 for central data storage and management, wherein,

the plurality of disks of the at least one array of disks are magnetic storage media, optical storage media or semiconductor storage media.

47. (Previously presented) The integrated input/output (I/O) controller of claim 1, further comprising:

a mapping engine to map high level host I/O requests into low level I/O commands; and

a low level command manager to manage data read and data write accesses into and out of a peripheral device in response to the low level I/O commands.

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48. (Original) The integrated input/output (I/O) controller of claim 47 further comprising:

a buffer manager to arbitrate access by the one or more servers and to control data reads and data writes into and out of a buffer memory.

49. (Original) The integrated input/output (I/O) controller of claim 47 further comprising:

a micro-controller to handle non-data flow commands, system initialization and error handling exception conditions.

50. (Original) The integrated input/output (I/O) controller of claim 47 wherein

the integrated I/O controller is a RAID controller and the peripheral device is a plurality of disks responsive to disk I/O commands.

51. (Canceled)

52. (Canceled)